

Valley Voice

What is your deep passion?

What is the single most important thing to you? That's not a rhetorical question; I really mean it. What is most important to you?

As we go through life, paradoxically, things get more complicated and simpler. We learn what is really important, and what is just a distraction – or worse, a time-waster. For too many of us, simply getting through the day is a major goal in itself; for others, there are still items on our “bucket list,” and the potential to actually accomplish them; for still others, the realization that some plans, put off for decades, never will happen is just beginning to sink in.

Our Hospital Visitor, Mary Beth McSwain, was examined by the Presbytery de Cristo on the 17th of August to determine whether she should become an ordained pastor (she's been offered a part-time position at Northminster Presbyterian Church in Tucson in addition to her work with us). One of the questions that was asked of her (full disclosure: I did it) was, “Can you describe where your love of the Lord Jesus Christ and your call from God to serve as an ordained servant of Christ (one quite personal, the other very public) intersect?”

Mary Beth's answer was inspiring and powerful, and too long to quote here if I could. But now I'm asking each of you something similar: since all believers are called to be ministers, witnesses to Jesus Christ, where does your own relationship with your Savior meet up with your calling from God to be faithful in all you do?

I'd be delighted to hear from you. Call, stop by, write me an email or a note. All your responses will stay confidential. Your answers are important to me – and to you – and to our God.

Blessings,



larrydelong@valleypres.net
520-625-5023



Rev. Lawrence R. DeLong, Pastor

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God and Valley

In every new member class, I ask the participants why they decided to join Valley Presbyterian Church. This is what I heard in the last new member class:

There's lots of stuff going on.

I feel right at home.

It is warm here.

This church emphasizes that God is the One who saves us.

Jesus is alive and well in this church.

Needless to say, this is a happy group! These same sentiments are expressed at each new member class. I get so excited when I hear such comments because it shows that God is present, and working in and amongst us. People recognize this when they walk in our doors and there is no greater joy. I encourage you to look for the signs of God in this place. As we sing on Sunday mornings:

"Surely the presence of Lord is in this place...I see glory on each face."

In Christ's love and mine,



Rev. Diane Christopher, Associate Pastor for Education & Outreach

Women's Ministries

Julia "Child of God" is back cooking up her new recipes for the Women's Ministries Gatherings. All of her recipes begin with the Christ Candle, the Bible, a devotion, the Horizons magazine, and fellowship. It is the ladies who attend our Gatherings and the speakers that add the spice.

Our first Gathering – The Grand Circle Brunch – is scheduled for Tuesday, September 24, at 10:00 a.m. Pastor Diane Christopher will introduce us to our new Bible study, "An Abiding Hope." Make your reservations at the Women's Ministries table on Sundays, September 15 or September 22. Cost is \$9.00. The Coordinating Team will be your hostesses. Let's make this Julia's best recipe yet!

Presby-Gift of the Month: School supplies for House of Neighborly Service

Mission Quilts

Mission Quilting will not meet in September as previously planned. Please mark your calendar that our next meeting will be Monday, October 7, at 9:00 a.m. in Classroom 1.

Anyone who is interested in helping us make quilts is welcome to join us. For specific information, please call Patti Bright at 305-3275.

Writing Group Meets September 4

VPC writing group meets on the first Wednesday of each month.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, September 4, at 10:00 a.m. in the Sweet Family Room. The topic will be "MERCY." Write anything you would like on this topic.

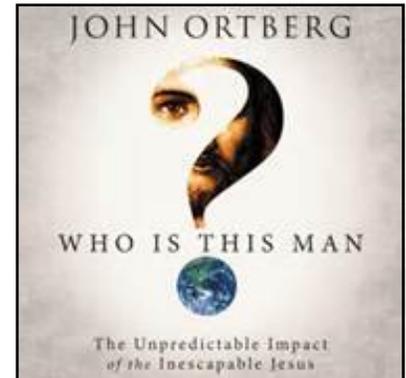
First-timers are always welcome.

WHO IS THIS MAN?

Leader: Debi Shippy

Our course concludes on Wednesday, September 4.

Even if you've not been able to attend prior meetings, come and join us as we study John Ortberg's views on the events of Holy Week.



Come for The Source at 5:00 p.m. and stay for a light meal... then our study in Classroom 5.

The Source Service of Worship

Wednesdays, 5:00 p.m.

Spiritual Life Center

Sept. 4 Taizé

Sept. 11 Vespers

Sept. 18 Healing and Hope

Sept. 25 Praise

Christian Education

The Kingdom Within

Continues Tuesdays through October 15

2:00 p.m. in Sweet Family Room

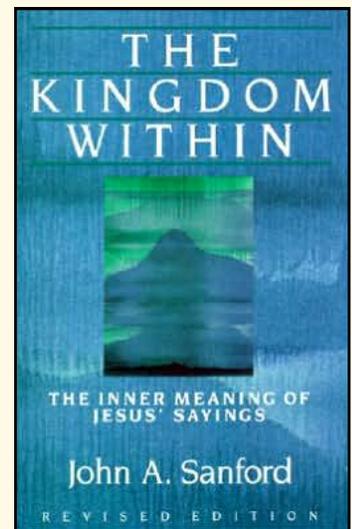
Leader: Grant Stitt

The Kingdom Within (The Inner Meaning of Jesus' Sayings) by John A. Sanford is a truly unique book that explores Jesus' teachings in a way that you never before experienced. By showing how Jesus' teachings relate to our inner depths, this book guides us toward a more conscious and creative life. *The Kingdom Within* explores the significance of Jesus' teachings for our interior life -- that inner reality that Jesus called "the kingdom of God." It is Sanford's conviction that contemporary Christianity has overlooked this inner dimension of Jesus' teachings and so has lost touch with the human soul.

Illustrated with case histories and dream material drawn from the author's work as a psychotherapist, *The Kingdom Within* examines such characteristics as extroversion and introversion, masculinity and femininity, thinking and feeling, and sensation and intuition to show how Jesus met the criteria of wholeness or fullness of personhood. Step by step, Sanford helps us to shed the outer mask, to eschew sin, which "means living in enslavement to what we don't know about ourselves," and to follow the road of consciousness, which leads to "a great treasure waiting only to be discovered."

Having taught this course three times before, I can say I never tire of reading and discussing this book. It offers a mystical experience that I believe is unique. I invite you to share in this weekly class that continues on Tuesdays, at 2:00 p.m. in the Sweet Family Room. If you were unable to start with us, please feel free to join us later. For more information, please call Grant Stitt at 396-3549.

Our Leader, Dr. Grant Stitt has led numerous classes examining spiritual growth at First Presbyterian Church in Flint, Michigan and St. John's Presbyterian Church in Reno, NV. He is Professor Emeritus of Criminology and Criminal Justice at the University of Nevada and a new member of Valley Presbyterian.



Lost Christianities

12-week class, starting October 18

Fridays at 1:30 p.m. in Classroom 5

Leader: Grant Stitt

In the first centuries after Christ, there was no "official" New Testament. Instead, early Christians read and fervently followed a wide variety of Scriptures - many more than we have today. Relying on these writings, Christians held beliefs that today would be considered bizarre. Have you ever heard of the Ebionites, the Marcionites or the Gnostics? They had some beliefs that were vastly different from those we hold today. They often relied on "other" Scriptures to authenticate their beliefs. What did these "other" Scriptures say? Do they exist today? How could such outlandish ideas ever be considered Christian? If such beliefs were once common, why do they no longer exist?

These are just a few of the many provocative questions that arise from the video course entitled "Lost Christianities: Christian Scriptures and the Battles over Authentication" (part of the offerings of The Great Courses).

This DVD course is taught by Professor Bart Ehrman, Chair of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. For more information, please contact class leader Grant Stitt at stitt@unr.edu or 396-3549.

Men's Weekday Bible Studies

There are two church-sponsored men's groups meeting during the week that would be glad for you to join them.

The first one meets on Tuesday mornings at 8 a.m. They have just begun studying the book ***More Than a Carpenter*** by Josh and Sean McDowell. A group of six to ten men meet at the Old Chicago Deli in the Green Valley Mall for one hour. The group meets for fellowship, food, and study. Dave Tompkins is the leader (399-3500).

The second group, with about five to twelve men, meets Wednesday mornings at 9 a.m. This group meets at the church for one hour in classroom 3. The group is facilitated by Larry Phillips (777-8027) but focuses on group discussion. They are studying the **Gospel of Luke** using the NavPress study guide. Lessons are self-contained so feel free to join the group at any time.

NOTE: The Wednesday group is taking a break for the first 3 weeks of September. They will resume on Sept. 25.

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study

Now with coffee & cookies!

Please join other adults for the Adult Sunday Morning Bible Study. They are using materials from "The Present Word." All adults are welcome to join any or all of our classes. The class meets in Classroom 1 at 8:45 a.m., prior to Sunday morning worship service.

Please join the class as they discuss these passages and how to apply Biblical truths to each of our lives.

Valley Readers

We begin the fall season with the classic book, *A MOVEABLE FEAST*, by Ernest Hemingway. Please mark your calendars for our meeting on Monday, September 23, at 1:30 p.m. in Classroom 5.

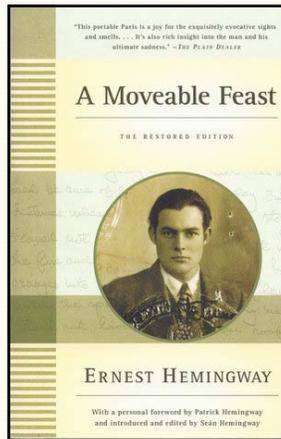
Hemingway's writing describes sometimes bitter and unkind recollections of his years in Paris as an expatriate in the 1920s with his first wife, Hadley, of whom he has nothing but fond memories. He describes drinking, writing in cafes, frequent visits with Gertrude Stein and her characterization of his generation as a "lost generation."

Hemingway was a contemporary expatriate among such as Ezra Pound and James Joyce.

He depicts his genteel poverty after he quits his journalistic activities and devotes his time to fulltime writing. He spends considerable time describing F. Scott Fitzgerald and his wife, Zelda. Zelda is going insane and is the cause of Fitzgerald's decline as a writer.

Our discussion leaders will be Donna Denton and Eloise Fredrickson. Please join us for lively discussion of this classic book.

Questions? Please call Anne Morrison at 399-0762.



Friendship Kettle Dinner

Sunday, Oct. 20, 5 p.m.

Dinner: A delicious meal of Chicken Parmesan will be served promptly at 5 p.m.

Program: At 6:00 p.m. join us for an amazing performance by the **Desert Mountain Brass** who will highlight the first of our winter Kettle dinner evenings.

Desert Mountain Brass is composed of five members with more than 150 years of combined musical experience. They will entertain us with a variety of melodies from Classical, Romantic, Dixieland, Light rock, and famous Broadway musicals. An evening not to be missed.

Tickets: (\$11/ person) will be on sale in Fellowship Hall prior to and following our Sunday service, October 6 and the 13.

Volunteers: The Kettle Dinner is in need of volunteers to help with serving so if you are interested and can help, please sign up when you purchase your tickets.

Outreach
Question

How can you best
"reflect God's glory"
today?

September is National Preparedness Month- Preparedness for what?

So how prepared are you? We often think of preparing for a natural disaster, making sure we have a plan in place when a disaster comes. It is always important to prepare for an emergency, to have plan in place, and to know what to do... where to go. What about a disaster happening to our life in the ways of faith and health; are we prepared for that?

How prepared are you to stay healthy, to stay active? Are you cleared from your physician to exercise and do you do it regularly?

How prepared are you for a medical emergency that may happen or for an urgent procedure or surgery? Do you know the risks and benefits of the procedure or surgery? Do you have an advocate or someone who can be present to help listen with you at medical visits or when you are being discharged from a facility or hospital?

How prepared are you to move or to transition away from your current home? Are you ready to transition to an assisted living facility? Do you know options? Do you know resources that may keep you in your home safer and longer?

How prepared are you to let those who are close to you know your wishes? Do you have an advanced directive or living will? Do you know where it is? Is it registered in the state of Arizona?

How prepared are we? How prepared are we to let God know about us? How prepared are we to study the Bible and learn and grow in faith, to have daily devotions and prayer, to take part in church?

As the new season of fall approaches, let us look at the above questions and take time to answer them, making sure we are given the chance to answer before a disaster may come and someone else would have to answer these questions for us.

Have you strengthened your faith and your health? Have you grown in spirit and education? Grow, learn, love and live as a Preparedness Plan. Learn about Jesus and his teachings. Love others as Jesus would himself. Live as a child of God. Grow in faith.

***Preparedness Month could really mean
to Watch, Learn, Listen and Prepare.***

Walk to Bethlehem

Last year's "Walk to Jerusalem" was so successful and positive that we have decided to "Walk to Bethlehem" for Christmas. It is 7,602 miles from Green Valley, Arizona, to Bethlehem.

We will be walking as a Community of Faith with Lutheran Church of the Risen Savior and Desert Hills Lutheran Church (and possibly another church). The "Walk to Bethlehem" will begin Saturday, October 5, with the goal to reach Bethlehem by Christmas.

Like the "Walk to Jerusalem," the "Walk to Bethlehem" is a 12-week walking program designed to increase physical, spiritual and emotional health of participants. This "virtual" trip to Bethlehem is accomplished by individuals within the church logging their own miles each week. For those who don't like to walk or can't, any **20 minutes** of "**physical activity**" (cycling, swimming, golf, exercise) equals 1 mile. For those not cleared to exercise or unable to exercise, 20 minutes of prayer equals one mile.

Sign-up begins Sunday, September 15, and will continue in Fellowship Hall for the remaining Sundays in September. You can also register by emailing gwalk2theholylnd@gmail.com before October 5. Put the name of your church in the "subject" line.

If you have any questions, feel free to email Chris Erickson, Parish Nurse, at parishnurse@valleypres.net.



Pastoral Care

SAVE THE DATE!

IT ALL BEGINS...

Friday, January 10, 2014, at 9 A.M.

What: Stephen Ministry Training

When: Every Friday from January 10 to March 21,
from 9 A.M. until 3 P.M.

Where: VPC Classroom 5

Who: VPC Members with a heart for service

Contact for information: Becky Gray
(grammybec@aol.com or 648-1500)



Stephen Ministry Continuing Education

Stephen Ministry will resume continuing education presentations in September. These presentations are in the Spiritual Life Center beginning at 9 a.m. on the second and fourth Fridays. In September, both of the programs will be given by active Stephen Ministers.

On September 13, Juliet Miller will give a presentation on "The Secrets of Aging." What is later life all about and, as we move through this stage, is it easy to try to repeat any of our life patterns? Juliet has a PhD in counseling from the University of Michigan and had a private counseling practice in Columbus, Ohio, prior to moving to Green Valley with her husband.

On September 27, Carol Blumer will give a presentation titled, "Near Death Experience or Imagination?" It is a true story of an experience that occurred in Carol's life. Carol has been a Stephen Minister at Valley for many years and active in many areas of our church.

An invitation is extended to anyone who would like to hear these presentations.

Parish Nurse News

Chair Exercises: Balance, Strength, Flexibility, and having fun – they are all in the chair exercise class at VPC. Try them on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 10 -11 a.m. Fee: \$25/month if attending three times a week, \$20/month if attending twice a week. For more information, contact Mia Cooper at 204- 5264.

Tai Chi has been recognized to improve balance, flexibility, and muscle strength, and is included in fall prevention programs. Tai Chi classes are on Mondays at 2:30 p.m. Fee: \$2.00 per class to instructor. For more information, contact Roger Ederle at 399-0166.

Blood pressure screening will resume Sunday, September 22, after worship service. You may have your blood pressure taken during the week on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 - 11 a.m. with the Parish Nurse.

Alzheimer's Support & Education program continues on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. in the Sweet Family Room. For more information or to register, contact Debra Anderson at the Alzheimer's Association at 520-322-6601.

Parkinson's support & exercise meets Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays, 9 – 10 a.m.

Mark your calendar now!

Walk to Bethlehem: It is 7,602 miles from Green Valley to Bethlehem. Registration will begin September 15.

Are you Planning Ahead? This program will be on Tuesday, October 29, at 1 p.m. and (repeated) Thursday, February 13, 2014 at 10:30 a.m. Will discuss advance directives, aging concerns, and planning ahead.

We are Planning:

End of Life issues with a nationally-known speaker on October 17, 2013, and Your Voyage thru Healthcare (navigating the healthcare system): Tuesday, Jan. 21.

Medical Minute thought for September:

September is Cholesterol education month. Cholesterol levels rise as we get older. Do you know what your cholesterol numbers are?

VPC MOVIE MINISTRY

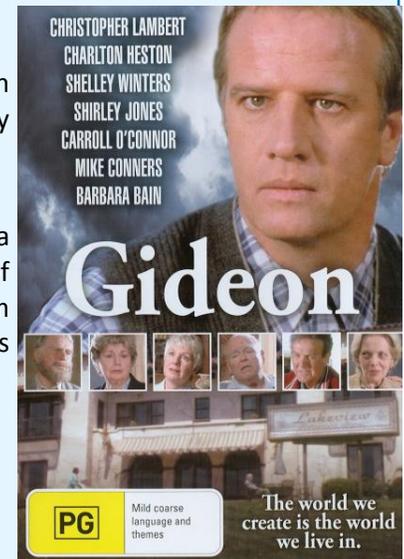
showing on Tuesday, September 17, 1:30 p.m., Spiritual Life Center

GIDEON

The last movie for this season is **GIDEON**, starring Christopher Lambert, Charlton Heston, Carroll O'Connor, Shirley Jones, Mike Connors, Barbara Bain, and Shelley Winters.

Actor Christopher Lambert gives us a heartwarming story as he portrays Gideon, a shy, mentally disabled and dying man who gives redemption and new life to a group of senior citizens who are simply waiting to die in a retirement home. Gideon gives them something far more substantial...have fun again! Some say it is the best thing Chris Lambert has ever done.

Be sure to join us to view this inspirational story.



BRING A FRIEND—FREE POPCORN & DRINKS !

WWW—Web Site News

Go onto the church website at www.ValleyPresbyterian.net and check out how we've revised the look, organization and content. Take time to check out each of the **tabs** – find out all the ways *you* can connect, participate and serve. Notice that you can print out PDF copies of sermons (or listen to them) from a button on the **Worship tab**. That is also where you will find audio files of our music.

Check out all of the scheduled activities under the **News and Events tab**, including the Calendar, a PDF file of the Valley Voice, and copies of the weekly Thursday E-Blasts. You can also read the frequent updates from Facebook right on this page.

And there is more . . . take time to cruise around the site and discover all the ways God's Grace is alive and well and working through the people of Valley Presbyterian.

Calling You

Our telephone team is busy with calling all our VPC members. As Christians, we are to care, nourish, support and pray for each other and that's the purpose of our phone calls. So, if we haven't called you yet, know that we will be calling!

And, if you would like to volunteer to help us do the calling, please contact me at 248-9324 - all volunteers are welcomed!!!

Debi Shippy, Chairperson of Pastoral Care Committee

Hunger Walk 2013

By Janice Potter for the Mission Committee

Mark your calendar and plan to join the Valley Presbyterian Hunger Walk Team on Saturday, September 28. We are walking to bring awareness to the hunger issues facing our community daily.

Each member of the team will be asked to make a donation and to invite neighbors and friends to join in this effort to make a difference for hungry families.



Amado and Green Valley/Sahuarita Food Banks will both host a walk this year, so it is important that you designate which food bank you wish to walk for. All proceeds from the Hunger Walk will stay in the community where the funds are raised.

***Amado Hunger Walk:** Sopori Elementary School (5000 W. Arivaca RD.) We will carpool from the church, leaving at 8:00 A.M. The walk begins at 9:00 A.M.

***Green Valley/Sahuarita Hunger Walk:** Posada Java (665 S Park Centre Ave) The walk begins at 8:00 A.M. There will be carpooling from the church, leaving the church at 7:15 for people who request it. Registration at both locations begins an hour before the walk.

There will be a table set up during fellowship time each of the first 4 Sundays in September to answer your questions and distribute registration forms.

It is important that we know if you plan to walk, so please drop by.

VPC Photo Directory

The new Church photo directory is coming soon! The goal is to include a picture of everyone who has a relationship with Valley Presbyterian Church, whether or not they have officially joined in membership. That includes choir members, patio sale volunteers, class participants, or anyone who thinks of Valley as their church home.

A Life-Touch photographer will be at Valley Presbyterian taking portraits of households during five days each in November, December and January.

Sunday, October 20, is the first day an appointment time can be reserved for having a picture taken during November. Specific information on how to reserve a time will be included in the October Valley Voice.

Volunteers will be needed...

Our Directory will only be successful with the efforts of many people; volunteers will be needed. Please call the church office to offer your help with the following tasks:

—Assisting people in reserving a date and time when their pictures will be taken. (People will be needed before and after several worship services beginning October 20.)

—Greeters will help people on the date of picture taking by confirming directory data, i.e., name, address (es), etc.

Watch for the October Valley Voice when more detailed information will be given about the Photo Directory. To volunteer your time, please call Gay in the church office (625-5023).

This is an exciting time at Valley Presbyterian Church and everyone is encouraged to participate.

Grief Recovery Workshop

Tuesdays, October 1-29; 10:00 a.m. – Noon, Classroom 5

Are you dealing with the death of a loved one? Are you questioning your reactions or feelings and wonder how others have coped or are coping? The death of a loved one disrupts our lives, often making it difficult to handle the problems of everyday life.

The Pastoral Care Committee will be sponsoring a five-week Grief Recovery Workshop in October. Participants will learn about grief, coping skills, and discover how to use this painful experience in a positive way for future growth.

The first session will begin at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, October 1, and end at noon. The sessions will continue each Tuesday through October. Co-facilitators for this workshop will be Dorothy Barker and Karen Woodard.

The workshop is open to all who are grieving the death of a loved one. There is no charge.

To enroll, please call the church office at 625-5023.

A SHOEBOX FILLED WITH JOY AND HOPE

Last November marked the tenth year that VPC participated generously in Operation Christmas Child, filling 145 shoe boxes for underprivileged children around the world. Here are some stories from across the world after shoeboxes were distributed last year and as the gospel was shared.



10-year old Melvin in a Hindu/Muslim mountainside village in Fiji, came to faith through Operation Christmas Child and The Greatest Journey, along with his grandfather, who was a Hindu priest and the local witchdoctor, with a small church being planted as a result with 10 baptisms to date!



A young girl in Latvia came to faith through Operation Christmas Child and The Greatest Journey, faithfully going to the hospital every day for several weeks to read her New Testament to her dad and to pray for him as he had brain cancer; with her dad coming to faith two weeks before he died.



A Muslim Imam in a Middle Eastern country who participated in giving out OCC gifts and who watched the Jesus film showed to the children after the distribution, approached an OCC volunteer, asking for a Bible, was prayed for and came to faith.

We can continue to help create stories like this as we fill our shoeboxes this fall. Please pray for the boys and girls in some 100 countries who will receive gift-filled shoe boxes and hear the Good News of Jesus Christ.

For more information, call Pam Campbell at 625-2911.

Associate Pastor Nominating Committee

Your Associate Pastor Nominating Committee has been hard at work all summer on the process to seek a new pastor for pastoral care. You may recall the guidelines for the process that we will be following:

- Update the Church Mission Statement and Study—make sure it is current and relevant to our current situation
- Write a job description for the new pastor
- Develop terms of call—make it realistic and up to date
- Establish at least a tentative time line as a guide
- Advertise for candidates
- Review Pastor Information Forms (PIFs) as we receive them
- Narrow the list to those candidates we would like to interview and meet
- Choose a nominee and extend an invitation
- Obtain presbytery approval
- Present the nominee to the congregation

We have completed the Mission Statement and Study and the job description. This is ready to be presented to the Session for approval on August 21. After that Eloise Frederickson, the moderator of Session, will take it to the Committee on Ministry. We are so far meeting our timeline, expecting to complete the Ministry Information Form and begin advertising in the next 2-3 months. By the first of the year, we should begin receiving PIFs to review.

Please continue to pray that the person God has chosen will feel called and send us his or her PIF! Also, pray for a unity of spirit within the APNC and a spirit of discernment in finding a compassionate person with a heart for ministry to senior citizens!

Red Cross Platelet Collection Returns to VPC

We are pleased to announce that the Red Cross mobile unit will be at our location on Tuesday, September 17, and is planning to return November 20 and January 14, 2014.

Blood platelets continue to be needed every day for cancer patients and others undergoing surgeries and organ transplants. Platelets are a component of blood that aid in clotting to prevent or stop bleeding. Unlike red blood cells which last 42 days after donation, platelets must be used within 5 days. Platelets are replenished within 48 hours after donating and a person can donate platelets up to 24 times in a 12-month period. Donation of platelets typically takes about two hours of time during which the donation donors sit back and relax to watch a movie of their choice or read a book.

To make an appointment for platelet donation or for information, please call the Red Cross at 520-230-7266.



News of Note

by Kay Albrecht



Sharlyn Matthews has decided to retire. She will retire not only from her position as bell choir director here at VPC, but also from that same position at her home church, St. Francis-in-the-Valley Episcopal Church.

~ A Little History ~

In 1991, Sharlyn, her late husband, Ellery, and her daughter, Lyn Ann, were all members of our Valley Ringers under the direction of Dorothy Meek. Through the years, Sharlyn has been a major influence on keeping bells alive and well in Green Valley. She was instrumental in forming the *Green Valley Hand Bell Festival*, a group, consisting of bell ringers from Desert Hills Lutheran Church, Risen Savior Lutheran Church, St. Francis Episcopal Church, and Valley Presbyterian Church, which performed for several years at VPC. In addition, she was the director of a June Bell Festival called, "*Christmas Bell Music and Ice Cream*" which performed at the St. Francis Parish Hall. Sharlyn was often a substitute for Raymond Ryder when he was directing our bells and agreed to become the VPC director when Raymond moved to Tucson in 2009.



Gerald Near, Director of Music at St. Francis Episcopal Church, has written a beautiful article about Sharlyn, her musical training, background, and dedication to her art and profession. The following are excerpts from that article, which I use with his permission:

A Long and Distinguished Service

Sharlyn is no ordinary musician. She is a professional in every sense of the word. A skilled pianist and accompanist, Sharlyn is the most 'in demand' musician I have ever known. And she would be in demand wherever she happened to be. Accompanying is truly an art, requiring, as it does, all the skills of a solo player as well as the ability (and willingness) to be in the background. There is often a coaching dimension to accompanying as well, another skill of great value Sharlyn possesses.

Ensemble bell ringing is a unique performance medium requiring unique skills. A bell ensemble director must be more than conversant with all the many, and, in some cases rather outré, techniques involved—must, in other words, be able to play bells with all skills mastered—and possess the ability to convey those skills to others. Sharlyn's methods have always been aimed at teaching not only the way bells are properly played, but also at fostering the basic skills of music, such as sight reading. Her methods have risen above the kind of 'paint by number' approach taken by many handbell pedagogues, and her players have been fortunate to work with a teacher who cares about such things.

Sharlyn is also a very modest person, and it's clear to anyone who knows her and her manifold musical abilities that she does what she does because she truly loves music and loves sharing it with others.

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We will certainly miss Sharlyn's quick smile, her bright and gentle spirit, and her remarkable gifts of music, but we will look forward to the visits she will share with us.

***Be sure to mark November 10 on your calendar as a special VPC service of worship honoring Sharlyn and the gift of music itself.***

## Who Are They?

Who are our missionaries, Bob and Kristi Rice? Neither Bob nor Kristi are strangers to mission service. They met in Rwanda in 2003, when Bob was a short-term mission worker with African Enterprise and Kristi was working with World Relief. "Our time in Rwanda proved formative for both us. We were inspired by their faith and resilience ... God touched our hearts, giving us a connection and love for our African brothers and sisters."

When they returned to the United States, they married, and Bob finished his M.Div. and M.A. degrees at Fuller Theological Seminary. He was ordained February 7, 2010, at Menlo Park (California) Presbyterian Church, which had nurtured his faith since childhood.

Kristi is a member of Wheaton (Illinois) Evangelical Free Church and a graduate of Wheaton College, where she majored in business and economics. She earned her M.B.A. in international development from Hope International University in Fullerton, California.

Why are they in the Democratic Republic of Congo, a country roughly one quarter the size of the United States? Why this country which after two civil wars has been left with a devastated infrastructure and economy where people throughout the country struggle daily for survival? Come October 12 and 13 and hear God's story of His purpose in their lives.

*Freely copied from their bio by Doug Clark*

### Spaghetti Dinner—Saturday, October 12

Plans are now finalized for a Spaghetti Dinner at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 12, prepared by Lois Macfarlane and hosted by "Will Do It Committee." Tickets (\$10) will be on sale in Fellowship Hall on September 29 and October 6 or from any Mission Committee member or the church office beginning on September 23.

This is a fund raiser dinner to honor Bob and Kristi and to help with books, materials, and equipment for the Rice's mission in Congo.

Look for the special offering envelopes in our pew racks to help with the educational and evangelistic work of these PC(USA) missionaries. If you would like to help out in hosting this mission weekend, please contact Cal Judson (269-7192) or Dave Horton (648-2637).



## Saturday, September 28, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Save the morning of Saturday, September 28, for a special celebration of enjoying God's Grace! This ½ day of learning will offer a variety of ways for each of us to learn more about God, the Bible, and being a Christian.

The morning begins with worship with the message delivered by Rev. Valerie St. John-DeLong.

Then, participants will be able to choose 2 offerings from the following 4 choices:

- ✦ A class presented by Pastor Larry: **Sunday – What's It All About?;**
- ✦ A workshop presented by Pastor Diane: **Ten Simple Ways to Bring Years, Not Fears, to Your Life;**
- ✦ A presentation with singing: **A German Theologian Meets African American Spirituals – Dietrich Bonhoeffer in Harlem;** led by Dr. Lance Barker, Linda Freeman and Patty Smith; and
- ✦ **Talking with God as We Age** –a small discussion group led by Eloise Fredrickson.

The cost is \$5.00 per person and prior registration is NOT required. The morning will conclude with a light lunch.

This morning is open to everyone in the community – invite a friend and enjoy this time of learning, growing, and sharing.

# September 2013

| Sun                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                        | Mon                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Tue                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Wed                                                                                                                                                                  | Thu                                                                                                                                                             | Fri                                                                            | Sat |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| 1<br>8:15a Sanctuary Choir practice<br>8:45a Adult Bible Study<br>9:45a Childcare-Nursery<br>10:00a <b>Service of Worship</b>                                                                            | 2<br><b>LABOR DAY</b><br><b>Office Closed</b>                                                                                                                          | 3<br>8:00a Morning Prayer<br>8:00a Men's Bible Study group<br>8:30a Women's Ministries<br>Coordinating team<br>9:00a NDC Leadership team<br>9:30a Prayer Ministry<br>2:00p The Kingdom Within study<br>2:00p Assoc. Pastor Nom. Com. | 4<br>8:00a Morning Prayer<br>9:00a Parkinson's exercise<br>10:00a Chair exercise<br>10:00a Valley Writing group<br>1:30p Membership/Outreach<br>5:00p <b>The Source</b><br>5:30p Light supper for class<br>6:00p Who Is this Man? | 5<br>8:00a Morning Prayer<br>8:30a Pastoral Care<br>1:00p Alzheimer's support<br>1:00p Hand Bells practice<br>2:00p Communion-La Joya<br>3:00p Communion-Silver Spgs | 6<br>8:00a Morning Prayer<br>8:00a Ministry of Presence<br>9:00a Parkinson's exercise<br>10:00a Chair exercise                                                  | 7                                                                              |     |
| 8<br>Just Coffee<br>8:15a Sanctuary Choir practice<br>8:45a Adult Bible Study<br>9:45a Childcare-Nursery<br>10:00a <b>Service of Worship</b><br>10:15a Sunday School                                     | 9<br>8:30a Small Study Group<br>9:00a Library Committee<br>9:00a Parkinson's exercise<br>10:00a Chair exercise<br>2:30p Tai Chi class                                  | 10<br>8:00a Morning Prayer<br>8:00a Men's Bible Study group<br>9:00a Mission Committee<br>9:30a Prayer Ministry<br>2:00p The Kingdom Within study<br>2:00p Assoc. Pastor Nom. Com.                                                   | 11<br>8:00a Morning Prayer<br>8:15a Crossroads Mission<br>9:00a Christian Ed committee<br>9:00a Parkinson's exercise<br>10:00a Chair exercise<br>10:00a Finance Committee<br>5:00p <b>The Source</b><br>7:00p Deacons             | 12<br>8:00a Morning Prayer<br>9:00a Faith & Health comm<br>1:00p Hand Bells practice<br>3:45p Sanctuary Choir practice                                               | 13<br>8:00a Morning Prayer<br>9:00a SM Continuing Ed<br>9:00a Parkinson's exercise<br>10:00a Chair exercise<br>10:00a SM Peer Review<br>11:00a Stephen Leaders  | 14                                                                             |     |
| 15<br>8:15a Sanctuary Choir practice<br>8:45a Adult Bible Study<br>9:45a Childcare-Nursery<br>10:00a <b>Service of Worship</b><br>10:15a Sunday School                                                   | 16<br>8:30a Small Study Group<br>9:00a Parkinson's exercise<br>10:00a Chair exercise<br>2:30p Tai Chi class<br>3:30p Adult Offr class                                  | 17<br>8:00a Morning Prayer<br>8:00a Men's Bible Study group<br>9:00a Creative Hands<br>9:30a Prayer Ministry<br>1:30p Movie: GIDEON<br>2:00p The Kingdom Within study<br>2:00p Assoc. Pastor Nom. Com.                               | 18<br>8:00a Morning Prayer<br>8:15a Crossroads Mission<br>9:00a Session council comm<br>9:00a Parkinson's exercise<br>10:00a Chair exercise<br>10:30a SM Sunday planning<br>5:00p <b>The Source</b><br>7:00p Session              | 19<br>7:00a Patio Sale sort/mark<br>8:00a Morning Prayer<br>1:00p Hand Bells practice<br>1:00a Alzheimer's support<br>3:45p Sanctuary Choir practice                 | 20<br>8:00a Morning Prayer<br>8:00a Grief Ministry team<br>9:00a Parkinson's exercise<br>10:00a Chair exercise<br>10:00a Parkinson's support<br>Board meeting   | 21                                                                             |     |
| 22<br>Just Coffee<br>8:15a Sanctuary Choir practice<br>8:45a Adult Bible Study<br>9:45a Childcare-Nursery<br>10:00a <b>Service of Worship</b><br>10:15a Sunday School<br>11:00a Blood pressure screening | 23<br>8:30a Small Study Group<br>9:00a Parkinson's exercise<br>10:00a Chair exercise<br>1:30p Valley Readers<br>2:30p Tai Chi class<br>3:30p Adult Offr class          | 24<br>8:00a Morning Prayer<br>8:00a Men's Bible Study group<br>9:30a Prayer Ministry<br>10:00a Grand Circle Brunch/Study<br>2:00p The Kingdom Within study<br>2:00p Assoc. Pastor Nom. Com.<br>4:00p Personnel Committee             | 25<br>8:00a Morning Prayer<br>9:00a Men's Bible Study group<br>9:00a Worship Committee<br>9:00a Parkinson's exercise<br>10:00a Chair exercise<br>10:30a Peace & Justice<br>5:00p <b>The Source</b>                                | 26<br>8:00a Morning Prayer<br>1:00p Hand Bells practice<br>3:45p Sanctuary Choir practice                                                                            | 27<br>8:00a Morning Prayer<br>9:00a SM Continuing Ed<br>10:00a Parkinson's exercise<br>10:00a Chair exercise<br>10:00a SM Peer Review<br>11:00a Stephen Leaders | 28<br>8:00a HUNGER WALK—Amado & GV/Sahuarita<br>9:00a <b>FESTIVAL OF GRACE</b> |     |
| 29<br>8:15a Sanctuary Choir practice<br>8:45a Adult Bible Study<br>9:45a Childcare-Nursery<br>10:00a <b>Service of Worship</b><br>10:15a Sunday School                                                   | 30<br>8:30a Small Study Group<br>9:00a Crossroads Mission tour<br>9:00a Parkinson's exercise<br>10:00a Chair exercise<br>2:30p Tai Chi class<br>3:30p Adult Offr class |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                |     |

# September Birthdays

1  
Dorothy Foucher  
Nancy Langsdale

2  
Carol Bowley  
Eileen Dahm  
Susan Nelson  
Vivian Sargent

3  
Bernice Hansen  
Peggy Kuhn  
Donna Marshall-  
Fairchild  
Sally Ruschmeier

4  
Daniel Hunter

5  
Edie Allan  
Pam Campbell  
Jane Groendyk

6  
Kristen Alvarez  
Charlie Ashton  
Jan Kimes  
Bill Lemman  
Dale Parker

8  
Jim Chervenka  
Corinne Harland  
Chuck Moore

9  
Dick Bolin  
Jan DeWitt  
Jo Hazlitt  
Sara Hennigar  
Carole Hooper

10  
Beverly Guinn  
Mandi Lurkins  
Beverly Milotz

11  
Don Du De Voire  
David Haynes  
June Wamsley



12  
Nina Coe  
Sonya Larsen  
Myrleen McNeil  
Jim Nelson  
Candy Nelson  
Kathryn Purdon

13  
John Busman  
Margie Scolpini  
Jane Selbie  
Rudy Sweisfurth

14  
Jim Collins  
Lois Dierken  
Harriet Molloy  
Robert Stegman

15  
Roger Bergquist  
Rene FitzSimons  
Donna Frisch

16  
Linda Jorn  
John Oty  
Elmer Peters

Bob Puttock  
Bette Schipmann  
17  
Barbara Chesnover  
Bettye Kehrer  
Bill Lont

18  
Thomas Bunting  
Crystal West

19  
Mabel Acri  
Joan Fava  
Russ Hadden  
Gare Reid

20  
Bunny Weggeman

21  
Wendell Bowers  
Elizabeth Brearley  
Bonnie Fleming  
Fred Folberth  
Len Janka

22  
Gini Baird  
Jane Hedden

23  
Nancy Lamphere  
Barb Mengebier  
Marguerite Nelson  
Dan Schroeder

24  
Helen Ellerbrake  
Jim Hayes  
Marjorie Walters

25  
Bill Heinhuis

26  
Harry Bender  
Jane Bond  
Lois Gillan

Judi Kehl  
Maybelle Todd

27  
Gene Rosenkranz  
Carolyn Stevens

28  
Harold Jenkins

29  
Jerry Boerman  
Cyndy Hargreaves  
Margie McBride

30  
Ken Haff  
Jace Loewen  
La Vicie Runkle

## Community Food Bank

The Food Bank is able to purchase \$9 worth of food for every \$1 you donate. If you prefer to donate with other VPC members, please make your check payable to VPC (memo field: Community Food Banks), and the amount will be shown on your annual church giving statement.

If you prefer to donate food items which gives receivers more choices, please check "Needs List" that is posted on our bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

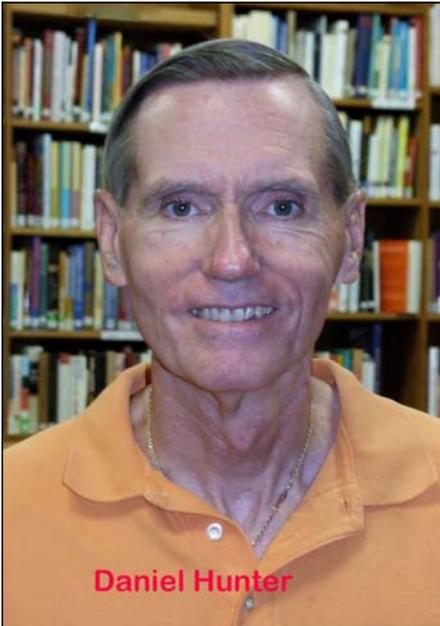
Donating food items gives receivers more choices. In addition to staples (like peanut butter) and personal care items that are always needed, our community is asked to donate tuna fish, canned vegetables, canned chicken/beef, canned fruit, juice, condiments (mustard/ketchup/sauces), macaroni and cheese, dairy products, sliced bread, crackers, snacks, and grocery store gift cards. (For distribution, the Food Banks can accept canned food up to 1 year past date on cans and up to 6 months past date on packaged food.)

The first Sunday of every month is donation day at VPC (9-10 a.m.), but you may drop off food items directly at the Green Valley Food Bank at 250 East Continental Road, or Amado Food Bank at 28720 S Nogales Hwy, Amado (M-F, 7 a.m.– 2:30 p.m.).

**Next monthly collection at VPC: Sept. 1**

# Welcome, New Members

Following are new members who were received by the congregation on Sunday, July 28. Don Batchelder was in this class but has now moved away permanently. Rosemary Mathews (photo not available) has changed from Affiliate to Member since she has moved to Green Valley full time.



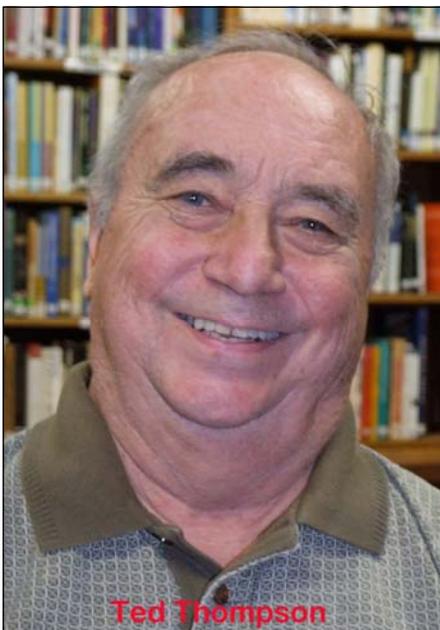
Daniel Hunter

Daniel Hunter (from Greenwood, Indiana): 742 N Abrego Dr, GV 85614 (625-2886) Area 5-CCEI



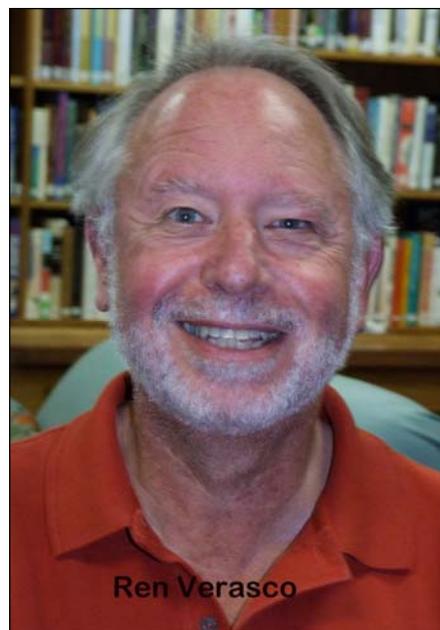
Gee-Gee Smith

Gee-Gee Smith (from Schwenksville, PA): PO Box 4709, Tubac 85646 (610-212-1171) Ar. 16-Tubac



Ted Thompson

Ted Thompson (from California): 753 S La Brisa, GV 85614 (777-6806) Area 8-FWIII



Ren Verasco

Ren Verasco (from NY City) 841 W Calle de Emilia, GV 85614 (215-208-1940) Area 6-MV

## The *Nearly-Reverend* Mary Beth McSwain

Mary Beth McSwain, our Hospital Visitor, has completed the final hurdle in the long journey to ordination as a Teaching Elder (minister or pastor) in the Presbyterian Church (USA)!

On August 17, at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Tucson, the Presbytery de Cristo had the wonderful opportunity to examine her on the basis of her statement of faith, spiritual autobiography, personal belief, and her training in theology – and it was wonderful! Without doubt it was the most inspiring examination for ordination any of us had experienced in many years – and brought tears not just to the Presbytery, but to Mary Beth, as she shared her deep faith, her family tradition of serving God as pastors in churches, and her call to serve with us.



At 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 22, 2013, Mary Beth will be ordained as Associate Pastor for Worship Arts at Northminster Presbyterian Church in Tucson (a three-quarter time position, which will not impact our relationship with her here at Valley).

Let's show our support for her and our gratitude for the wonderful service she's done for us by having a solid VPC presence! Ruling Elder Eloise Fredrickson will be a part of the ordination commission.

Call Gay at the office if you'd like to carpool to the celebration!



### Valley Presbyterian Church

is a member of Presbytery de Cristo in  
The Synod of the Southwest,  
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

### Pastoral Staff

Rev. Lawrence R. DeLong, Pastor  
Rev. Diane Christopher, Associate  
Pastor for Education and Outreach  
Rev. Joe Hawkins, Pastor Emeritus  
Mary Beth McSwain, Hospital Visitor

### Mission Statement

*To know Christ and  
make Him known  
through word and deed.*

### Join Us In Worship!

#### Traditional Worship Service

Childcare Provided

#### Sundays

May 5—November 24, 2013  
10:00 a.m.

December 1—April 27

8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

#### The Source Worship Service

Wednesdays

5:00 p.m.

Holy Communion Celebrated  
1st Sunday each month

The Valley Voice newsletter is published the first day of each month for the members and friends of Valley Presbyterian Church, 2800 S Camino del Sol, Green Valley AZ 85622.

Articles may be submitted for consideration to Georgia Puttock in the church office in writing before the 15th of the month by US mail, in print or by email to gputtock@valleypres.net.

It is helpful to have articles as email. Submitted articles may be edited for style and length.

## REMEMBERING MR. ROGERS

**Fred McFeely Rogers** (March 20, 1928 – February 27, 2003) was an ordained Presbyterian minister, an American educator, songwriter, author, and television host. Rogers was most famous for creating and hosting *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood* (1968–2001), which featured his gentle, soft-spoken personality and directness to his audiences.



Initially educated to be a minister, Rogers was displeased with the way television addressed children and made an effort to change this when he began to write for and perform on local Pittsburgh-area shows dedicated to youth. WQED developed his own show in 1968 and it was distributed nationwide. Over the course of three decades on television, Fred Rogers became an indelible American icon of children's entertainment and education, as well as a symbol of compassion, patience, and morality.

Rogers received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, some forty honorary degrees, and a Peabody Award. He was inducted into the Television Hall of Fame, was recognized by two Congressional resolutions, and was ranked No. 35 among TV Guide's Fifty Greatest TV Stars of All Time. Several buildings and artworks in Pennsylvania are dedicated to his memory, and the Smithsonian Institution displays one of his trademark sweaters as a "Treasure of American History."

To honor Fred Rogers on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his passing, Valley Presbyterian Church Library is pleased to offer the following "Mr. Rogers" items for your reading and viewing pleasure:

### BOOKS

*The Simple Faith of Mr. Rogers: Spiritual Insights from the World's Most Beloved Neighbor.* Amy Hollingsworth. (791.45 H72)

*Life's Journeys According to Mr. Rogers: Things to Remember Along the Way.* Fred Rogers. (170 R63)

*The World According to Mr. Rogers: Important Things to Remember.* Fred Rogers. (170 R63)

### DVD

*Fred Rogers: America's Favorite Neighbor.* (DVD 791.45 F87)



### PROMOTED TO GLORY



July 26

Michael Heller

survived by Olive Heller

July 31

William Goldsberry

survived by Ernestine Goldsberry

August 4

Mildred Kantenwein

August 7

Jack Young

survived by Marilyn Young

**Valley Presbyterian Church**  
 2800 S Camino del Sol  
 Green Valley AZ 85622  
 (520) 625-5023

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 Website: [www.valleypresbyterian.net](http://www.valleypresbyterian.net)

**Sunday  
 Service of Worship  
 10:00 a.m.**

**Deacons' Food Bank Score Card August**

|                                     |              |                         |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| Cash (at Deacon's Collection point) | Year To Date | \$1,483.                |
| Groceries                           | 43 pounds    | Year To Date 680 pounds |

*Next Deacon's Food Bank Collection: Sept. 1, 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.*

**Singles**

Singles will attend a matinee performance at the Gaslight Theatre on Sunday, September 22. We will car pool from VPC parking lot at 1:15 p.m.

The show is "Buccaneers of the Caribbean." Doors open at 2:15; show begins at 3:00 p.m. We have a reservation for 10 (on my credit card). Sign up in Fellowship Hall, beginning September 1. Cost is \$17.84. Please make your check to me, Pat Frey, by September 15.

Guests are welcome.

**VPC Art Gallery**

VPC Member Charlotte Strauman will display 30 beautiful tole pictures in our gallery during the month of September.

Charlotte has been creating these wonderful pictures since she first arrived in Green Valley in 1975. She has been busy creating some special new artwork that will be featured for your pleasure. Her latest pictures are named "Wolves" and "Owl in a Tree." Each one took her about a month to finish.

Be sure to stop by our Art Gallery in the Office hallway during the coming month to see Charlotte's inspiring creations.

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*For information about showing your art in our Gallery, please contact Georgia Puttock.*

**Noisy Offering**

The Mission Committee thanks all those who contributed to our Noisy Offering on June 30. We collected \$639.05 for Mission organizations that greatly need our help and support.

**VPC Financial Report as of July 2013**

|                       |                  |                         |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| <b><u>Income:</u></b> |                  | <b><u>Expenses:</u></b> |                  |
| Anticipated support   | \$584,985        | Anticipated expenses    | \$635,940        |
| Actually received     | <u>\$563,802</u> | Actually spent          | <u>\$591,054</u> |
| <u>Behind</u>         | \$ 21,183        | <u>Ahead</u>            | \$ 44,886        |

Our next Noisy Offering is scheduled for September 29.



**September Traditional Services of Worship**

|              |                                                            |                                     |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| September 1  | Larry DeLong                                               | "Benediction"                       |
| September 8  | Larry DeLong                                               | "Turning Outward"                   |
| September 15 | Diane Christopher                                          | "Best Job Ever" (I Timothy 1:12-17) |
| September 22 | Rev. Georges Bitar, Middle Eastern Presbyterian Fellowship |                                     |
| September 29 | Larry DeLong                                               | "Becoming Ourselves"                |